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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT ^{SEP 19} 37 ^{RD, NO}

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Alleged Activation of
a People's Army

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Rumors to the effect that the SMA contemplates organizing a people's army are current among paramilitary personnel assigned to units stationed in Berlin. These rumors have a somewhat demoralizing effect upon the rank and file of those units; frequently the argument is heard that they enlisted for police duty and not for military service.
2. At a meeting attended by platoon and [REDACTED] the acting chief of Abteilung Bereits stated that whereas it was desirable to counteract people's rumors, due care should be taken not to issue straightforward denials of their accuracy, lest subsequent developments should prove them to have been well founded. One of the officers present at the meeting pointed out that it would be difficult to dispel the rumors in view of the fact that they had been started by police cadets attending courses at the officers' training school at Pirna (Saxony) who while on leave in Berlin consorted with Berlin paramilitary personnel. These students had reportedly stated that the close prospect of a people's army coming into being had been opening and authoritatively discussed at the school.
3. The officers' training school at Pirna is headed by a former major of the German Wehrmacht. Among other training subjects, students are taught the firing of 2 cm Flak and 7.5 artillery.

Comment: The removal of the Bereitschaften from the GAI police structure, fairly reliably reported under way now, can be adduced as corroborative evidence that the outright militarization of the Bereitschaften is now only a matter of time.)

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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